831.7001-4

- (6) Where the institution, training establishment, or employer arranges for issuance of supplies to all students by stores or establishments not institutionally owned and to pay such store or establishment for supplies issued to trainees, reimbursement is allowable provided the charges are no greater than those paid by nonveterans or to the institutions whichever is the lesser.
- (7) Supplies purchased by the institution specifically for trainees will be reimbursed at the net cost to the institution.
- (8) Where the institution does not provide or arrange for issuance of generally required books, tools and supplies for students attending the facility, the institution, in cooperation with VA, may designate certain stores and establishments to provide generally required books, tools and supplies for veterans pursuing a vocational rehabilitation program. The vendor will be reimbursed in the same manner as for supplies provided or arranged for by the institutions.
- (9) Where it is customary in a survey subject to permit each student to obtain the aggregate of books for the subject on a rental basis (commonly referred to as a rental set) and the ownership or permanent possession by the student is not required, reimbursement is authorized for the rental charge provided it does not exceed the charge made to nonveteran students.
- (10) Educational and training institutions furnishing supplies to trainees which are required to be owned personally or on a rental basis by all students pursuing the same or similar course may be compensated for such services in an amount not exceeding 10 percent of the allowable charge for the supplies furnished or rented except:
- (i) Where the tuition covers the charges for supplies or rentals or a stipulated fee is assessed all students, handling charges are not allowable.
- (ii) The handling charge is not allowable for Government-owned books procured by the institution from the Library of Congress.
- (iii) In cases where an item of equipment will exceed \$50 in cost, effort will be made to secure a lower handling charge than for those costing a lesser

amount. The agreed percent for such handling charges will be included in the contract or added as an addendum.

[49 FR 12615, Mar. 29, 1984, as amended at 54 FR 40064, Sept. 29, 1989]

831.7001-4 Medical services and hospital care.

- (a) VA may pay the customary student health fee when payment of the fee is required for similarly circumstanced nonveterans. If payment of the fee is not required for similarly circumstanced nonveterans payment, payment may be made if it is determined by the Veterans Health Administration that such payment is in the best interest of the veteran and the government.
- (b) Where medical services or hospital care not covered by the customary students health fee are available in the school operated facilities or arrangements have been made by the institution with doctors and hospitals in the immediate area, reimbursement by the Veterans Benefits Administration for such services may be made in a contract for such services provided that the Director, VA Medical Center, determines:
- (1) That such arrangements are necessary to provide timely medical care for veterans attending the facility under provisions of Chapter 31: and
- (2) The general rates established for such services do not exceed the rates established by the Under Secretary for Health.
- (c) VA may reimburse a rehabilitation facility for incidental medical services provided during a veteran's program at the facility.

[49 FR 12615, Mar. 29, 1984, as amended at 54 FR 40064, Sept. 29, 1989; 63 FR 69221, Dec. 16, 1998]

831.7001-5 Secretary's Decision No. 557.

- (a) Fees and expenses authorized under Secretary's Decision No. 557 may be authorized for payment when the educational institution or training establishment makes such payments on behalf of the veteran.
- (b) Payment for fees and expenses not made by the educational institution or training establishment will be made in